

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0503

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

US MISSION USUN 1255

S E C R E T USNATO 1269

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS, NATO

SUBJECT: LOS: NATO CONSULTATIONS ON LOS SECURITY ISSUES

USUN PLEASE PASS AMBASSADOR STEVENSON

SUMMARY: NATO CONSULTATIONS ON LOS SECURITY ISSUES, HELD AT U.S. INITIATIVE, INDICATE BROAD ALLIANCE SUPPORT FOR UNIMPEDED TRANSIT OF STRAITS, PROTECTION OF SOUND SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS (SOSUS), AND PROTECTION OF FULL NAVIGATIONAL FREEDOMS IN ECONOMIC ZONE. CONSULTATIONS ALSO INDICATE GENERAL ALLIANCE FEELING THAT UNIMPEDED TRANSIT OF STRAITS IS PREVAILING IN NEGOTIATION. PROGRESS CLEARLY MADE SINCE LAST YEAR'S CONSULTATIONS IN OBTAINING DANISH AND ITALIAN SUPPORT ON STRAITS AND IN NEUTRALIZING GREEK AND CANADIAN RESERVATIONS.

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THOUGH CANADIANS ARE NOT YET OFFERING STRONG SUPPORT ON STRAITS, AMBASSADOR BEESLEY (CANADA) DID NOT OFFER OPPOSITION AND SEEMED TO AGREE THAT TREND WAS TOWARD ACCEPTANCE OF UNIMPEDED TRANSITS. END SUMMARY

1. JOHN NORTON MOORE AND ADMIRAL MORRIS (U.S.) MADE PRESENTATION TO NATO PERMREPS CONCERNING LOS SECURITY ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE TO NATO. FOCUS WAS ON PROTECTION OF UNIMPEDED TRANSIT OF STRAITS, INCLUDING SUBMERGED TRANSIT AND OVERFLIGHT, PROTECTION OF SOSUS SYSTEMS, AND PROTECTION OF FULL NAVIGATIONAL AND OVERFLIGHT RIGHTS IN THE ECONOMIC ZONE -- PARTICULARLY THROUGH AVOIDANCE OF STANDARD SETTING BY COASTAL STATES FOR VESSEL SOURCE POLLUTION IN THE ZONE. RESPONSE STRONGLY SUPPORTIVE ON ALL ISSUES. ONLY SOUR NOTES WERE HINT BY TURKISH REP THAT IRANIAN STRAITS PROPOSAL PROVIDING PREFERENTIAL TRANSIT RIGHTS TO STATES BORDERING ENCLOSED SEAS MIGHT BE WORTH STUDY AND QUESTION RAISED BY BELGIAN LOS EXPERT (VAN DER ESSEN) WHETHER IT WAS POSSIBLE FOR ALLIANCE TO ACHIEVE GOAL OF SUBMERGED TRANSIT OF STRAITS. BELGIAN EXPERT SEEMED TO BE GENERALLY UNINFORMED ON POINT AND BELGIAN MILITARY ADVISER APOLOGIZED TO ADMIRAL MORRIS FOR CONFUSING STATEMENT. BELGIAN STATEMENT ALSO INCONSISTENT WITH CLEAR SENTIMENT OF MEETING THAT TREND IN NEGOTIATION SEEMS TO BE TOWARD UNIMPEDED TRANSIT OF STRAITS. DISCUSSION OF SOSUS PROBLEM INDICATED STRONG SUPPORT FOR NEED TO PROTECT SUCH SYSTEMS BY PRESERVATION OF RESIDUAL RIGHTS. (FULL REPORT ON COUNCIL SESSION SENT SEPTTEL.)

2. IN SEPARATE MEETINGS MOORE MET PRIVATELY WITH FERGO (DENMARK), AMBASSADOR YOLGA (TURKEY), SIR ROGER JACKLING (UK), AMBASSADOR BEESLEY (CANADA), AND AMBASSADOR KNOKE (GERMANY).

3. FERGO SAID LATEST U.S. SUGGESTION (LIMITATION OF QUALIFYING REGIMES CLAUSE TO STRAITS LESS THAN SIX MILES WIDE) FOR DANISH STRAITS SOLVED PROBLEM WELL, PROVIDED THERE COULD BE AGREED GENERAL STATEMENT FOR RECORD ALONG LINES OF INTERPRETATION IN LIGHT OF EXISTING PRACTICE BY SOVIETS AND U.S. DENMARK WOULD ALSO MAKE STATEMENT FOR RECORD. FERGO INDICATED THAT DANES WOULD CONSULT WITH FINNS AND GET BACK TO MOORE BEFORE GENEVA SESSION. MOORE COULD THEN APPROACH SOVIETS AGAIN INDICATING DANISH AND FINNISH REACTIONS TO U.S. PROBLEM AND THAT DANES AND FINNS SHOULD HAVE NO DIFFICULTY IN AGREEING
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NOT TO PRESS SIX MILE EXCEPTION IF SOVIETS WOULD ACCEPT THE U.S. PROPOSAL. FERGO ALSO INDICATED SALMON ARTICLES USING BEYOND ECONOMIC ZONE APPROACH WOULD HAVE DANISH SUPPORT.

4. AMBASSADOR YOLGA STRESSED TURKISH CONCERNS WITH RESPECT TO AEGEAN DISPUTE. ONLY NEW POINTS WERE THAT NO PACKAGE DEAL SHOULD GO FORWARD AT GENEVA WITHOUT ACCOMMODATING THE TURKISH CONCERN AND THAT THE SEABED BOUNDARY PROBLEM WAS IN HIS OPINION MORE CRITICAL FOR TURKEY THAN THE TRANSIT ACCESS ISSUE WHICH HE TOOK FOR GRANTED WOULD HAVE TO BE SOLVED.

5. MOORE BRIEFED AMBASSADOR KNOKE ON LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN ARCHIPELAGO NEGOTIATION AND KNOKE INDICATED THE FRG COULD GO ALONG IF ARCHIPELAGO STATES SUPPORTED UNIMPEDED

TRANSIT. KNOKE ALSO ASKED TO JOIN GROUP OF 5 (APPROACH ALSO MADE SIMULTANEOUSLY TO ROGER JACKLING) AND MOORE INDICATED HE WOULD REPORT KNOKE'S INTEREST TO WASHINGTON. (UK WAS QUITE UNENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT EXPANDING MEMBERSHIP OF THE GROUP OF 5.)

6. IN MEETING WITH SIR ROGER JACKLING, MOORE COORDINATED ON DANISH STRAITS APPROACH AND INQUIRED WHETHER UK PLANNED TO GO IN AT JAKARTA TO EMPHASIZE IMPORTANCE OF FINALIZING ARCHIPELAGO UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORT FOR UK STRAITS ARTICLE. SIR ROGER INDICATED THAT LATEST U.S. PROPOSAL ON DANISH STRAITS FINE, IF WE COULD PERSUADE THE SOVIETS, AND THAT UK DID PLAN TO GO IN TO JAKARTA ALONG LINES DISCUSSED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

7. IN MOORE'S MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR BEESLEY, BEESLEY STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF TECHNICAL LEVEL TALKS THIS WEEK IN OTTAWA FOR OUTCOME OF U.S.-CANADIAN PROPOSAL CONCERNING SPECIAL AREAS. HE ALSO INDICATED IT MIGHT BE SEVERAL WEEKS INTO GENEVA BEFORE HE WOULD BE IN POSITION TO FORMALLY RESPOND ON U.S. PROPOSAL. IN MEANTIME WE SHOULD CONTINUE USEFUL INFORMAL UNDERSTANDING OF NEUTRALITY ON ISSUES OF MUTUAL CONCERN AND EXCHANGE ON REVIEW PROCEDURES. WITH RESPECT TO DIFFICULTY IN COORDINATION OF SALMON ARTICLE BEESLEY SAID HE WOULD TAKE PERSONAL HAND TO SEE IF HE COULD SPEED THINGS UP. HE AGREED WITH MOORE THAT ABSOLUTE HIGH SEAS BAN APPROACH WAS NOT NEEDED AND THAT PROVISIONS ON INTERMINGLING AND BEYOND ECONOMIC ZONE WERE APPROPRIATE AND PREFERABLE. HE SUGGESTED POSSIBLE OTTAWA DIFFICULTY IN REACHING AGREEMENT ON SALMON
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ARTICLE WAS CONCERN THAT U.S. WAS MAKING DEAL WITH JAPANESE ON SALMON AT EXPENSE OF CANADA. MOORE REASSURED HIM THAT IT WAS U.S. NOT CANADIANSALMON WE WERE DISCUSSING AND THAT ANY AGREEMENT WITH JAPANESE WOULD, OF COURSE, NEED TO BE COORDINATED WITH THE CANADIANS.
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